



DIVISION OF MINES  
BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS  
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

**CHIEF ELECTRICIAN (SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND)**

Article 3 of the Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20 (VR 480-04-2), which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

**CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: \*Chief Electrician (Surface and Underground)**

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform electrical work and inspections at all surface areas of underground, surface and underground coal mines
- Make examinations on electrical equipment
- Conduct and record results of electrical examinations

**APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Application (BCME-1) and \$10.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
- Hold a valid Electrical Repairman and Electrical Maintenance Foreman certification
- Five years of electrical experience as applied to underground mining or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines
- Current first aid training (MSHA first aid 5000-23 acceptable)

**EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:** A score of 80% on each element of the examination.

<b>ELEMENTS OF EXAM</b>	<b>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS</b>
Chief Electrician Exam (CH)	50
▪ Alternating Current	
▪ Direct Current	
▪ Circuits & Equipment	
▪ Cable Splicing	
▪ High Voltage	
▪ Legal Requirements	
▪ Permissibility	
▪ First Aid (FA)	20
▪ National Electrical Code (not implemented)	20
▪ Practical Stations (not implemented)	
▪ Records – practical (not implemented)	

- continued on back -

**RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:**

- Title 30 CFR Part 75, 77
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia
- BCME Requirements
- Electrical Study Guide
- First Aid For Miners Study Guide

**The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8233 and Keen Mountain Field Office (276) 498-4533.**

**\*8 hours annual Electrical Repairman continuing education will update this certification.**

Revised 04/10/01